

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 OPR-02 ACDA-19 SY-04 M-02 A-01

EUR-25 CIEP-02 OC-06 CCO-00 DRC-01 NIC-01 /170 W

----- 109100

P R 021403Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9868

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 7654

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: SITREP 1600 HOURS JULY 2

REF: ADDIS 7578

1. SITUATION IN ADDIS ABABA REMAINS CONFUSED AN AT SAME TIME  
RELATIVELY NORMAL. ARMED FORCES CONTINUE GUARDING KEY INSTALLA-  
TIONS AND MAKING ARRESTS.

2. MILITARY COMMUNIQUE ISSUED YESTERDAY EXPLAINED THAT CURRENT  
MEASURES BEING TAKEN "TO ENSURE SMOOTH FUNCTIONING OF NEW CABINET"  
AND SAID ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF  
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. JULY 1 COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED FOUR NEW DE-  
TENTIONS: ZWEDE GEBRE-HIWOT, PRESIDENT OF SENATE; BETRU  
ADMASSIE, GEN MAN OF IBTE; DEJ. WORKINEH WOLDE-AMANUEL, FORMER  
GOV GEN OF HARARGHE; AND DEJ. LEGESSE BEZU, FORMER GOV GEN OF  
WOLLO. MILITARY ANNOUNCED IT WOULD BE DETAINING MORE PERSONS  
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"WHO DELIBERATELY CONTINUE CREATE DISSENSION AND DISCORD AMONG THE

PEOPLE." STATEMENT PLEDGED LOYALTY TO EMPEROR AND PEOPLE.

3. WE HAVE RELIABLE REPORTS THAT ARMED FORCES TODAY ARRESTED AFENEGUS ABEJE DEBALEK, FORMER SUPREME COURT JUSTICE AND SENATOR, AND A WEALTHY ARMENIAN BUSINESSMAN NAMED GARIBIDEAN. LOWER HOUSE PARLIAMENT MET IN CLOSED SESSION TODAY, REPORTEDLY TO DISCUSS CURRENT WAVE ARRESTS AND PARTICULARLY THAT OF SENATE PRESIDENT (SEE REFTEL).

4. EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEE AND OTHER RELIABLE SOURCES REPORT THAT LARGE NUMBER TROOPS MOVED INTO NEW MARKET AND PIAZZA AREAS THIS MORNING TO CONTROL UNEMPLOYED STREET PEOPLE WHO BEGAN BREAKING SHOP WINDOWS AND LOOTING. REPORTEDLY LOOTERS QUICKLY DISPERSED WITH NO CASUALTIES.

5. WHILE UNCERTAINTY PERVADES CITY ATMOSPHERE, BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENT APPEAR FUNCTIONING IN RELATIVELY NORMAL FASHION. WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPORTS SERIOUS OUTBREAKS OF LAW-LESSNESS IN COUNTRYSIDE. WHILE MANY EDUCATED ADDIS RESIDENTS GENERALLY WELCOME LATEST WAVE OF ARRESTS, SOME SKEPTISM BEING EXPRESSED ABOUT SELECTION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS AND ABOUT ABILITY OF GOVERNMENT AS NOW CONSTITUTED TO SURVIVE.  
WYMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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